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**COUNTRY** Spain

**SUBJECT** Statements of Diego MARTINEZ Barrio

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**SUPPLEMENT TO  
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The following is a resume of statements made to source by Diego MARTINEZ Barrio, President of the Spanish Republican Government-in-Exile, in early January 1949.

1. I consider the PRIETO plan in a state of forced suspension. After PRIETO'S voluntary retirement from the Committee (the Socialist Committee negotiating for a coalition government, from which PRIETO withdrew on 27 November 1948, because of ill health), the Socialist Party itself agreed to dissolve this committee and, to all intents and purposes, to substitute for it the Liaison Commission. This commission is intended to be composed of the Socialist Party, the Union General de Trabajadores, the factions of the republican parties associated in the Alianza Republicana Espanola and the fringes of the Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo represented by Juan Jose LUQUE, who, I am told, has quarreled with one segment of his erstwhile followers. What is being attempted outside Spain is something similar to what has been functioning inside Spain with the name Alianza Nacional de Fuerzas Democraticas.
2. Alvaro de ALBORNOZ (Prime Minister of the exile government) is much more realistic and responsible than many people think. Jose GIRAL has remained very much to the left of him. ALBORNOZ is surprised at this and not without reason, but that is the way it is. Conforming to reality, ALBORNOZ' old position has undergone a notable change. It can be said that his position is the same as mine.
3. Jaime MIRAVITLES (director of information of the Spanish Republicans in New York - La Prensa (NY), 17 March 1948) has proposed that I dissolve the Government and remain alone as the representative of Republican Institutions, in order to make the solution of the problem easier. I replied that I am willing to do that and much more, as soon as there is a formula which has substance and responsible backing. If the British or the American Government tells me to, I will take myself out of the picture, provided a concrete formula exists which is not a mere dream or an aspiration without the backing through which it might have real possibilities. But as long as

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there is no clear and effective solution, as long as there exist nothing more than intrigues, hypotheses and projects, I am not disposed to commit what could with reason be considered an act of treason. I am not willing to abandon my post or the Republican Institutions except to a reality which might open roads to democracy to Spain. Whenever responsible Powers tell me that these roads will be opened, even though I do not like or share their point of view, I shall leave the way free. Until this moment arrives, here I shall remain, maintaining my position and that of the Government. ALBORNOZ thinks substantially the same as I.

4. The situation as I see it is that we are going directly to the Monarchy. We are approaching a quasi-absolute Monarchy. Inside Spain there is nothing against FRANCO. FRANCO is playing with Don Juan as a cat plays with a mouse, yet Don Juan, although it may seem paradoxical, is the only serious thing that there is in Spain to oppose FRANCO. The Monarchist-Socialist pact is nothing more than a way of cooperating for the establishment of the Monarchy. No matter what intention its protagonists may have, the only accomplishment of this pact is to facilitate the Monarchist restoration. In the face of a fait accompli, the program of the eight points might serve to enable the Monarchy to wrest some concessions from the military. I do not think that the thing has any other importance.

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